



PLACER COUNTY
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CORONER-MARSHAL



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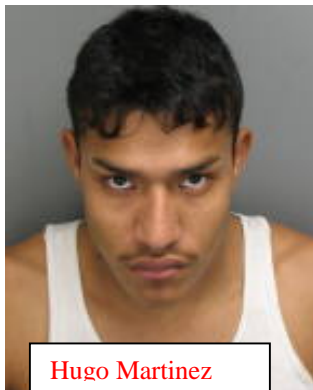
EDWARD N. BONNER
SHERIFF-CORONER-MARSHAL

STEPHEN L. D'ARCY
UNDERSHERIFF

PRESS RELEASE

Date/Time of Release: Thursday, December 29, 2005 2:30 p.m.
Date/Time of Occurrence Wednesday, December 28, 2005
Nature of Event: Deputies Discover Wanted Murderer
Location of Call: Placer County Jail, Auburn
Released by: Dena Erwin (530) 889-6922

SHERIFF EDWARD N. BONNER RELEASES THE FOLLOWING:



Hugo Martinez

A man attempting to hide his true identity and the fact that he was wanted for murder should have washed his hands before he was booked at the Placer County Jail Wednesday.

Placer County Sheriff's Deputies Ron Evans and Jennifer Riggs followed their hunch and discovered that "Lewis" Martinez was actually Hugo Martinez, a 19-year-old homicide suspect from Mexico. When Evans initially asked Martinez his name, the man looked down at his hand and read the alias written on his palm.

Hugo Martinez was brought to the jail by Rocklin police officers who had arrested him on numerous charges, including auto theft, possession of burglary tools and evading officers. Once Evans and Riggs investigated Martinez's identity via fingerprints, the felony murder warrant from Riverside County was discovered.

Evans contacted Riverside County detectives, who confirmed that Hugo Martinez was one of two suspects sought for a June 7 homicide in Temecula. He and his brother, Manuel Araiza Martinez, both of Michoacan, Mexico, were wanted for the shooting death of another man from Michoacan. Riverside authorities are scheduled to arrive in Placer County Friday to interview Martinez.

Martinez is being held without bail in the Placer County Jail.